

Whereas, Lucas Jeffrey Cifranic has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America Troop 811; and

Whereas, Lucas Jeffrey Cifranic has shared his time and talent with the community; and

Whereas, Lucas Jeffrey Cifranic has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Lucas Jeffrey Cifranic must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award;

Therefore, I join with the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Lucas Jeffrey Cifranic for his Eagle Scout Award.

CONGRESS HALL IN CAPE MAY,
NEW JERSEY

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the reopening of Congress Hall, a very special historic landmark in Cape May, New Jersey.

Opened in 1816, Congress Hall was originally built by Thomas Hughes as a boarding house for summer visitors to the Cape May area. The house was a success and, in 1828, when Hughes was elected to Congress, it was renamed Congress Hall in his honor. An 1878 fire destroyed the Hall but within a year it was rebuilt.

As the hotel and its surrounding city became more popular, it attracted an even more diverse stream of visitors. Presidents Ulysses S. Grant, Franklin Pierce and James Buchanan all chose to vacation here. President Benjamin Harrison deemed Congress Hall his "summer White House." Composer John Philip Sousa conducted concerts on the lawn of the Hall and, in 1882, composed the "Congress Hall March."

Closed during the Great Depression and reopened after the end of the Second World War, it seemed that the days of Congress Hall and the grandeur it had been associated with had passed. From 1968 until 1995, Congress Hall was protected from demolition when it became the home of the Cape May Bible Conference led by Reverend Carl McIntire. Then, in 1995, the property was purchased and prepared for extensive renovation.

Today, Congress Hall is reopened, recalling its original splendor, fit for Presidents, dignitaries and visitors the world over. I am pleased to claim Congress Hall as part of my Congressional District's proud history and welcome a new generation of vacationers to visit the historic hotel. Best wishes to all the people involved with Congress Hall and to the citizens of Cape May as they celebrate this special milestone in their community's history.

THE SPOKANE TRIBE OF INDIANS
OF THE SPOKANE RESERVATION
GRAND COULEE DAM EQUITABLE
COMPENSATION SETTLEMENT
ACT

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to introduce legislation that will provide an equitable settlement of the meritorious claims of the Spokane Tribe of Indians concerning its contribution to the production of hydropower by the Grand Coulee Dam.

Similar settlement legislation was enacted in 1994 to compensate the neighboring Confederated Colville Tribes as a consequence of the Grand Coulee Dam. That legislation, P.L. 103-436, provided for a \$53 million lump sum payment for past damages and roughly \$15 million annually from the ongoing proceeds from the sale of hydropower by the Bonneville Power Administration. The Spokane settlement legislation, which I am introducing today, would provide a settlement of the Spokane Tribe of Indians claims directly proportional to the settlement afforded the Colville Tribes based upon the percentage of lands appropriated from the respective tribes for the Grand Coulee Project, or approximately 39.4 percent of the past and future compensation awarded the Colville Tribes pursuant to the 1994 legislation. Though the proposed Spokane settlement is proportionately less, the losses sustained by the Spokane Tribe are substantially the same as those sustained by the Colville Tribes and arise from the same actions of the United States Government. The difference being that the Spokane Tribe lost its entire salmon fishery, the base of its economy.

Grand Coulee Dam is the largest concrete dam in the world, the largest electricity producer in the United States, and the third largest electricity producer in the world. It produces four times more electricity than Hoover Dam on the Colorado River and is three times its size. Grand Coulee is one mile in width; its spillway is twice the height of Niagara Falls. It provides electricity and water to one of the world's largest irrigation projects, the one million acre Columbia Basin Project. The Grand Coulee Project is the backbone of the Northwest's federal power grid and agricultural economy.

For more than half a century, the Grand Coulee Project has produced enormous revenues for the United States Government and brought prosperity to the Pacific Northwest. The construction of the dam and the electricity it produced, helped pull the Northwest out of the Great Depression. It provided electricity to the aluminum plants that built the air force that helped to defeat Germany and Japan in World War II.

To the Spokane Tribe of Indians, however, the dam is a monument to the destruction of their way of life. The Dam flooded their reservation on two sides. The Spokane River—the ancestral umbilical cord to Spokane existence and the heart of their reservation—was changed from a free flowing waterway that supported plentiful salmon runs, to barren slack water that now erodes away the southern lands of the Reservation with every change in the reservoir level. The enormous

benefits that accrued to the Nation and the Northwest were made possible by uncompensated and irreparable injury to the Native Americans of the Columbia and Spokane Rivers.

From 1927 to 1931, at the direction of Congress, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers investigated the Columbia River and its tributaries. In its report to Congress, the Corps identified a number of potential sites and recommended the Grand Coulee site for hydroelectric development by either the State of Washington or private concerns. Shortly thereafter, the Columbia River Commission, an agency of the State of Washington applied for and, in August 1933, was granted a preliminary permit from the Federal Power Commission for the water power development of the Grand Coulee site. However, on November 1, 1933, Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior and Director of Public Works Administration, federalized the project under the National Industrial Recovery Act of 1933. Excavation for the dam commenced on December 13, 1933. However, its legal authorization was in question and Congress reauthorized the Dam in the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1935. In 1940, very belatedly and inadequately (at the urging of the Department of the Interior), Congress did enact a statute to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to designate whichever Indian lands he deemed necessary for Grand Coulee construction and to receive all rights, title and interest the Indians had in them in return for his appraisal of its value and payment of compensation by the Secretary. The only land that was appraised and supposedly compensated for was the newly flooded lands. Pursuant to this legislation, 54 Stat. 703 (1940), the Spokane Tribe received the grand total of \$4,700. There is no evidence that the Department advised or that Congress knew that the Tribes' water rights were not extinguished. Nor had the Indian title and trust status of the Tribal land underlying the river beds been extinguished. No compensation was included for the power value contributed by the use of the Tribal resources nor the loss of the Tribal fisheries or other damages to tribal resources.

Although the Department of the Interior and other federal officials were well aware of the flooding of Indian trust lands and other severe impacts the Grand Coulee Project would have on the fishery and other critical resources of the Spokane and Colville Tribes, no mention was made of these impacts or the need to compensate the Tribes in either the 1933 or 1935 authorizations. Federal inter-departmental and intra-office correspondence of the Department of the Interior from September 1933 thru October 1934 clearly demonstrate that the Federal government knew that the Colville and Spokane Tribes should be compensated for the flooding of their lands, destruction of their fishery and other resources, destruction of their property and annual compensation from power production for the use of the Tribes' land and water resources contributing to such power production. As pointed out in a 1976 Opinion of Lawrence Aschenbrenner, the Acting Associate Solicitor, Division of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior:

The 1940 act followed seven years of construction during which farm lands, and timber lands were flooded, and a fishery destroyed, and during which Congress was silent as to the Indian interests affected by